

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-6 and 9-12 were previously cancelled, and claims 7, 8, 15, 16, 21 and 22 are currently amended. Upon entering this Amendment, the following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application.

Listing of Claims

1. – 6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) An eye drop container comprising:

a container body having a liquid storage portion for containing liquid therein;

an instilling portion provided at the top of the container for allowing the liquid to flow out in an opened stage;

an aerating device provided at the bottom of the container body and having a filter element and a check valve for allowing ambient air to flow in from the outside and preventing the liquid from flowing out; and

an attachable bottom cap for covering the aerating device, the aerating device being allowed to contact a floor surface when the bottom cap is removed to steadily support the container on the floor surface in a balanced manner.

8. (Currently Amended) The eye drop container as defined in claim 27, wherein the aerating device comprises further comprising a receiving portion to contact the floor surface to steadily support supporting the container body.

9-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously Presented) The eye drop container as defined in claim 27, wherein the check valve has a duck-bill type construction including a pair of plate-shaped portions contactable with each other at end portions thereof, and is closed when the pair of plate-

shaped portions contact each other at the end portions thereof or opened when the pair of plate-shaped portions are moved away from each other at the end portions thereof.

14. (Previously Presented) The eye drop container as defined in claim 8, wherein the check valve has a duck-bill type construction including a pair of plate-shaped portions contactable with each other at end portions thereof, and is closed when the pair of plate-shaped portions contact each other at the end portions thereof or opened when the pair of plate-shaped portions are moved away from each other at the end portions thereof.

15. (Currently Amended) The eye drop container as defined in claim 7, ~~further comprising a cap attachable to the container body and~~ including an opening member for opening the instilling portion in an unopened stage and a valve member for allowing the liquid to flow out and preventing ambient air from flowing into the container.

16. (Currently Amended) The eye drop container as defined in claim 8, ~~further comprising a cap attachable to the container body and~~ including an opening member for opening the instilling portion in an unopened stage and a valve member for allowing the liquid to flow out and preventing ambient air from flowing into the container.

17. (Previously Presented) The eye drop container as defined in claim 7, wherein the filter element is designed not for allowing entry of a source of contamination present in the ambient air.

18. (Previously Presented) The eye drop container as defined in claim 8, wherein the filter element is designed not for allowing entry of a source of contamination present in the ambient air.

19. (Previously Presented) The eye drop container as defined in claim 7, wherein the aerating device is designed for allowing entry of the ambient air into the liquid storage portion from the outside.

20. (Previously Presented) The eye drop container as defined in claim 8, wherein the aerating device is designed for allowing entry of the ambient air into the liquid storage portion from the outside.

21. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ ~~The~~ eye drop container ~~as defined in claim 15~~ comprising:

a container body having a liquid storage portion for containing liquid therein;
an instilling portion for allowing the liquid to flow out in an opened stage, the instilling portion comprising an opening member for opening the instilling portion in an unopened stage and a valve member for allowing the liquid to flow out and preventing ambient air from flowing into the container, wherein the valve member element prevents the ambient air from flowing into the container when the valve member element is in tight contact with the opening member from its outside and allows the liquid to flow out when the valve member element is away from the opening member due to pressure of the liquid;

an aerating device provided at the bottom of the container body and having a filter element and a check valve for allowing ambient air to flow in from the outside and preventing the liquid from flowing out; and

an attachable bottom cap for covering the aerating device, the aerating device being allowed to contact a floor surface when the bottom cap is removed.

22. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ ~~The~~ eye drop container ~~as defined in claim 16~~ comprising:

a container body having a liquid storage portion for containing liquid therein;
an instilling portion for allowing the liquid to flow out in an opened stage, the instilling portion comprising an opening member for opening the instilling portion in an

unopened stage and a valve member for allowing the liquid to flow out and preventing ambient air from flowing into the container, wherein the valve member ~~element~~ prevents the ambient air from flowing into the container when the valve member ~~element~~ is in tight contact with the opening member from its outside and allows the liquid to flow out when the valve member ~~element~~ is away from the opening member due to pressure of the liquid;

an aerating device provided at the bottom of the container body and having a filter element and a check valve for allowing ambient air to flow in from the outside and preventing the liquid from flowing out, wherein the aerating device comprises a receiving portion to contact the floor surface to steadily support the container; and

an attachable bottom cap for covering the aerating device, the aerating device being allowed to contact a floor surface when the bottom cap is removed, wherein the bottom cap is formed integrally with the container body and is separable from the container body.

23. (Previously Presented) The eye drop container as defined in claim 7, wherein the liquid is allowed to flow out in association with reduction in volume of the container body under the opened stage.

24. (Previously Presented) The eye drop container as defined in claim 7, wherein the filter element is designed not for allowing entry of a source of contamination present in the ambient air into the container, and the aerating device is designed for allowing entry of the ambient air into the liquid storage portion from the outside.

25. (Previously Presented) The eye drop container as defined in claim 24, wherein the liquid is allowed to flow out in association with reduction in volume of the container body under the opened stage.

26. (Previously Presented) The eye drop container as defined in claim 7, wherein the bottom cap is formed integrally with the container body.

27. (Previously Presented) The eye drop container as defined in claim 26, wherein the bottom cap formed integrally with the container body is separable from the container body.

28 (Previously Presented) The eye drop container as defined in claim 7, wherein the aerating device is opposite to the instilling portion and further comprises an outer supporting surface to contact the floor surface when the bottom cap is removed, wherein the filter and the check valve are spaced from the outer supporting surface and between the instilling portion and the outer supporting surface of the aerating device.